



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 3738**

**PATENT**

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 08442.0002-04000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

**Joseph C. Cauthen**

Application No.: **10/085,040**

Filed: **March 1, 2002**

For: **INTERVERTEBRAL DISC  
ANNULUS STENT**

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) Group Art Unit: 3738  
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) Examiner: U. Chattopadhyay  
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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed June 29, 2004, the period for response having been extended to October 29, 2004 by a request for extension of one month and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicant proposes that this application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** follow the amendment sections of this paper.

DO NOT  
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UA  
10/26/04